

Acetylene Incident

Why we don't store acetylene
in a closed up vehicle!

Incident Description

- This is an incident in Newcastle. It happened on Monday the 29th of September. A fitter with a works van left an E size Oxygen and Acetylene cylinder on the back seat of a Toyota dual cab over the weekend. The Acetylene cylinder must not have fully closed and a small leak occurred.
- Over the weekend the Acetylene had accumulated in the van. On the Monday morning the fitter approached the van and opened the door, a large explosion took place. We believe the ignition could have been caused by either the internal light, the automatic door control or by a mobile phone which was on the front seat of the van. The fellow was also a smoker. He has damage to his ear drums and facial damage. As you can see by the attached photos he was very lucky.

What Makes Acetylene so Bad!

- FLAMMABILITY LIMITS (% by volume in air): Lower: 2.5 Upper: 100 – **an extremely wide range!!!!**
- Use or store only in a well-ventilated area. (**inside of the truck is not well ventilated**)
- NFPA RATINGS: Health 1; **Flammability 4**; Reactivity 3;

Modified Toyota Pick-up



Wider Perspective



Close-up inside the cab

